

"Let's Talk About Fireworks and Safety"

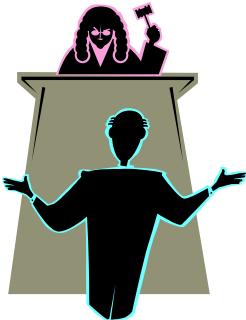
Minimizing Firework Risk through Accountability and Responsibility!

Last year there were over 1300 emergency incidents in Washington associated with fireworks, including 10 large fires. Incidents involving illegal explosive devices included an impaled object and 5 amputations.



You will be held Accountable:

Remember there will be legal consequences for any injuries or damages caused by the irresponsible use of fireworks or the use of illegal explosive devices. These consequences range from being charged with malicious mischief to assault or a gross misdemeanor. Examples include possession of illegal explosive devices such as fireworks that have been tampered with or altered. A gross misdemeanor can bring a fine of up to \$5,000 and/or one year in prison.



Take Responsibility:

- M80's, M100's or M1,000's are illegal explosive devices. They are NOT fireworks. They can cause amputations and other severe life-changing injuries. They are federally illegal and their use or possession has legal consequences.
- Fireworks are prohibited on School Properties - In 2003 there were 14 fireworks-related fire incidents at schools, one caused \$62,500 in damages.
- Know the fireworks laws for your area. Laws restricting or banning the use of fireworks in cities and counties are listed on the fireworks website.

Don't overestimate your ability:

Tampering with fireworks is dangerous and illegal. Fireworks that are tampered with are illegal explosive devices.

Attend a Public Display—It's a great way to enjoy fireworks. There are over 100 fireworks public displays in Washington State in observance of Independence Day.

To learn more about public fireworks displays and other information regarding fireworks, check our web site at <http://www.wsp.wa.gov/fireworks/default.htm>, or call 1-888-29JULY4



celebrate safely campaign

Office of the State Fire Marshal